

## **Consolidated Working Group Otay River Watershed Management Plan Goals and Objectives (August 4, 2004)**

### **Goals**

1. Protect and Enhance Natural Resources
2. Protect and Enhance Water Quality
3. Maximize Program and Plan Integration
4. Provide Educational and Recreational Opportunities
5. Protect Public Safety
6. Ensure Reasonable, Sustainable, and Compatible Economic Development
7. Ensure Effectiveness of the Watershed Management Plan

### **Objectives for Achieving the Goals**

#### ***1. Protect and Enhance Natural Resources***

- Preserve additional open space. (CAC-1, City of San Diego-3)
- Protect, enhance, and restore functions and values of aquatic resources, including seasonal streams, isolated wetlands, vernal pools, intermittent wetlands, and floodplains. (ENV-1)
- Protect, enhance, and restore key ecological and cultural resources. (City of San Diego-2)
- Remove invasive plant and animal species and their sources of seed. (ENV-10)
- Protect wildlife movement and dispersal corridors. (ENV-8)
- Provide a native buffer (e.g., 100 feet) between key habitat areas and active recreation trails or urban centers, such that noise, light, and traffic do not impact wildlife. (REC-1)
- Protect groundwater and surface water from contaminants and levels of extraction that would degrade the support of native habitat and wildlife. (ENV-2)
- Limit dry season runoff to seasonal wetlands such that plants and animals that depend on them will survive and the habitat types will not be converted to perennial habitats. (ENV-4)
- Protect natural landforms. (ENV-7)

#### ***2. Protect and Enhance Water Quality (CAC-7)***

- Protect and enhance groundwater and surface water from sources of contamination, such as trash, debris, or other wastes entering waterways by storm runoff or illegal dumping. (ENV-2, ENV-9, City of San Diego-1)
- Identify best management practices to control erosion and contaminants at their sources to minimize aquatic resource degradation. (ENV-5)
- Seek to restore the hydrology of drainage ditches, concrete channels, and storm water pipes to natural to the greatest extent practicable. (ENV-6)
- Provide sediment control while allowing for natural sand replenishment. (ENV-12)
- Control solid waste and waste water. (ENV-13)

#### ***3. Integrate Aspects of Existing Programs and Plans that are Sustainable and Compatible with Meeting the Goals of the Watershed Management Plan***

- Adopt the Best Management Practices outlined in the City of San Diego “Source Water Protection Guidelines for new Development”. (City of San Diego-5)
- Ensure that the Watershed Management Plan is compatible with the City of Chula Vista, City of San Diego, and the County of San Diego General Development Plans, Community Plans, and Specific Plans, as well as zoning ordinances where appropriate. (PO/BO-2, PO-BO-3)
- Ensure that the Watershed Management Plan is compatible with the City of Chula Vista, City of San Diego, and the County of San Diego "Jurisdictional Urban Runoff Management Programs” (JURMPs) and Standard Urban Stormwater Mitigation Plan (SUSMPs). (CAC-12)
- Identify existing protections and avoid any duplicative or conflicting recommendations or processes with the requirements of State and federal agencies, such as the CDFG, RWQCB, USFWS, and the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers. A key example is the MSCP and the individual subarea plans (PO/BO-2)
- Coordinate restoration efforts within the watershed between public, private, and local land-owners and managers. (CAC-9)
- Integrate the Goals and Objectives of the OVRP Concept Plan for the Western OVRP (June 1997). (CAC-13)
- Integrate the Otay River Valley Cleanup Projects as envisioned in 2000. (CAC-10)
- Work with the County of San Diego to integrate future OVRP programs for the Otay Valley Regional Park. (CAC-13)
- Allow for a streamlined permitting process for regional park activities. (CAC-5)
- Develop of a GIS Mapping system compatible with the City of Chula Vista, City of San Diego, and the County of San Diego database. (CAC-11)
- Make the GIS mapping available to the public via the Project Clean Water web-site or alternative media. (CAC-11)
- Make certain that the existing plans and programs are integrated only if compatible and sustainable with the watershed’s functions and values. (new objective from 08-04-04 Working Group Meeting)
- Identify gaps between existing plans so that strategies can be developed and individual jurisdictions can determine whether or not they want to implement recommendations. (new objective from 08-04-04 Working Group Meeting)

#### ***4. Provide Educational and Recreational Opportunities***

- Identify adequate public access points and staging areas to the open space for recreational uses. (CAC-4)
- Provide for a multi-purpose trail system. (CAC-3)
- Maintain connectivity with other open space areas and trail systems. (CAC-8)
- Educate trail users about the adverse effects of litter, leash laws, and animal waste on wildlife and natural habitats. (REC-3)
- Require trail users to clean up after themselves and their pets and impose penalties. (REC-3)
- Educate trail users about the native flora and fauna within the open space and preserve areas. (CAC-6)
- Allow for additional recreational sites that avoid or minimize adverse effects on sensitive resources (CAC-2, City of San Diego-4)
- Provide a native buffer between passive and active recreation trails and urban centers, such that hikers, birdwatchers, and eco-tourists are not disturbed while seeking the enjoyment of nature (REC-2).

### ***5. Protect Public Safety***

- Provide flood management. (ENV-11)
- Preserve the water absorption capacity of the watershed so that natural flow-capacity of waterways is not exceeded during storms. (ENV-3)
- Provide a strategy for dealing with homeless occupation of open space areas in the watershed. (ENV-14)

### ***6. Ensure Reasonable, Sustainable, and Compatible Economic Development***

- The plan should evaluate and consider the economic impacts of recommendations made to the participating jurisdictions. (PO/BO-4)
- The plan should balance important goals such as provision of housing, economic development and larger, broader goals related to community development (PO/BO-1).
- The plan should ensure that economic development is sustainable and compatible with the natural resources and the water quality of the watershed (new objective from 08-04-04 Working Group Meeting).

### ***7. Ensure Effectiveness of the Watershed Management Plan***

- Develop a multi-disciplinary plan, avoiding a single-purpose focus. (PO/BO-1)
- Form a viable, active watershed council that continues beyond this short-term watershed planning effort (SDRWQCB – 1)
- Ensure adequate communication among stakeholders about watershed issues and how to address them. (REG-4, SDRWQCB – 2)
- Prepare a watershed plan focused on achieving and sustaining a healthy watershed (as measured by an array of indicators, including but not limited to water quality). (REG-2, SDRWQCB – 3)
- Prepare a watershed plan focused on fixing problems by addressing sources and causes of problems. (SDRWQCB – 4)
- Prepare a watershed plan focused on preventing problems by anticipating and addressing threats and their sources and causes. (SDRWQCB – 5)
- Prepare a watershed plan that includes recommendations for changes and improvements in plans, processes, projects, programs, practices, policies, activities, “business as usual,” etc. (REG-3, SDWRQCB – 6)
- Prepare a watershed plan that includes a well thought out strategy for implementation. (SDWRQCB – 7)
- Commitment by the watershed council to implementation of the watershed plan. (SDWRQCB – 8)
- Commitment by the watershed council to update and fine-tune the watershed plan to ensure that it is a living and useful document. (REG-1, SDWRQCB – 9)